

Essex

Connecticut

Town Hall
P.O. Box 98
Essex, CT 06426
(860) 767-4340

Belongs to
Middlesex County
Lower River Labor Market Area
Middlesex County Economic Dev. Region
Connecticut River Estuary Planning Area

Incorporated in 1852

Demographics

<i>Population (1998)</i>				<i>Race/Ethnicity (1998)</i>			
	<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>State</i>		<i>Town</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>State</i>
1980	5,078	129,017	3,107,580	White	5,983	136,456	2,648,212
1990	5,904	143,196	3,287,116	Black	71	6,562	274,213
1998	6,175	149,610	3,271,239	Asian Pacific	33	2,364	73,304
2003	6,370	154,241	3,272,149	Native American	4	237	5,952
'98-'03 Growth	3.16%	3.10%	0.03%	Other	4	135	5,336
				Hispanic (any race)	80	3,856	264,222
Land Area (sq. miles)	10.37	369.28	4,845	<i>Poverty Rate (1990)</i>	3.33%	3.96%	6.61%
Pop./ Sq. Mile (1998)	595.47	405.14	653	<i>Educational Attainment (1990)</i>			
Per Capita Inc. (1998)	\$34,083	\$25,497	\$27,078	Persons Age 25 or Older	<i>Town</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>State</i>
Households (1998)	2,662	58,001	1,229,087	High School Graduate	1,092	24.8%	648,366
Median Age (1997)	43.5	37.6	37.2	Some College	1,101	25.0%	495,696
				Bachelors or More	1,586	36.1%	597,693
<i>Age Distribution (1998)</i>							
	<i>0-4</i>	<i>5-17</i>	<i>18-24</i>	<i>25-49</i>	<i>50-64</i>	<i>65+</i>	<i>Total</i>
Male	162 6%	455 16%	171 6%	1,041 36%	519 18%	526 18%	2,874
Female	164 5%	461 14%	166 5%	1,078 33%	564 17%	868 26%	3,301
County Total	9,278 6%	24,735 17%	12,244 8%	59,822 40%	22,811 15%	20,720 14%	149,610
State Total	216,119 7%	550,400 17%	280,101 9%	1,257,928 38%	499,093 15%	467,598 14%	3,271,239

Economics

<i>Business Profile (1997)</i>					<i>Top Five Grand List (1997)</i>		
<i>Sector</i>	<i>Firms</i>	<i>% of Total</i>	<i>Emp.</i>	<i>% of Total</i>		<i>Amount</i>	<i>% of Total</i>
Agriculture	16	2.4%	91	1.8%	Essex Meadows, Inc.	\$18,597,210	3.04%
Const. and Mining	81	12.2%	306	6.1%	Turbo Products International, Inc.	\$6,861,310	1.12%
Manufacturing	62	9.4%	1,046	20.9%	Lee Company	\$5,981,720	0.98%
Trans. And Utilities	26	3.9%	147	2.9%	Herbert T. Clark III	\$3,816,620	0.62%
Trade	158	23.9%	1,055	21.1%	Country Life Properties	\$2,278,600	0.37%
Finance, Ins. and Real Estate	42	6.3%	246	4.9%	Grand List Total (1996)	\$611,090,375	
Services	274	41.4%	2,102	42.0%	<i>Top Five Major Employers (1997)</i>		
Government	3	0.5%	17	0.3%	Doncasters Inc	Griswold Inn	
Total	662	100.0%	5,010	100.0%	Essex Meadows Inc.	Middlesex Med. Center. Shoreline	
					Incarnation Center, Inc.		
						<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>
					<i>Retail Sales (1996)</i>	\$35,668,637	\$30,837,967,729

Education

<i>1995-1996 School Year</i>				<i>Connecticut Mastery Test Percent Above Goal</i>					
	<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>		<i>Grade 4</i>		<i>Grade 6</i>		<i>Grade 8</i>	
Total Students	810	461,203		<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>
Total Expenditures Per Pupil	\$8,479	\$8,300		Reading	62 55	83 60	80 64		
Average Teacher's Salary	\$44,948	\$48,598		Math	68 59	79 52	71 51		
Students Attending Public School	82.0%	89.2%		Writing	48 46	75 46	90 51		
Student/Teacher Ratio	14.9	14.5							
Grads Pursuing Post-Sec. Education	72.9%	75.8%		<i>Average SAT Score</i>		<i>Town</i>	<i>State</i>		
High School Dropout Rate	4.7%	4.6%		Verbal		525	503		
<i>Average Class Size</i>				Math		528	499		
Kindergarten 15.5	Grade 2 19.0								
Grade 5 20.8	Grade 7 20.1	High School 17.2							

Connecticut Town Profiles 1998-1999

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Government

Government Form	Selectman- Town Meeting	Annual Debt Service (1996)	\$665,558
		As % of Expenditures	7.1%
Total Revenue (1996)	\$9,392,503	Equalized Grand List (1996)	\$728,932,095
Tax Revenue	\$8,028,594	Per Capita	\$124,924
Non-tax Revenue	\$510,983	As % of State Average	160.2%
Intergovernmental	\$852,926	Date of Last Revaluation	10/ 1/89
Per Capita Tax (1996)	\$1,254	Moody's Bond Rating (1997)	Aa3
As % of State Average	88.1%	Actual Mill Rate (1997)	13.50
		Equalized Mill Rate (1996)	10.83
		% of Grand List Com/Ind (1995)	16.9%

Housing

Housing Stock (1997)	Town	County	State	Sales Price Distribution (1996)	Town	County	State
Existing Units (total)	2,896	65,409	1,374,566	Number of Sales			
% Single Unit	76.2%	73.1%	62.9%	Less than \$100,000	16	980	22,254
New Permits Auth. (1997)	21	625	9,349	\$100,001-\$200,000	64	1,286	20,713
As % Existing Units	0.73%	0.96%	0.68%	\$200,001-\$300,000	25	263	6,600
Demolitions (1997)	0	41	1,193	\$300,001-\$400,000	12	79	2,730
Residential Sales (1996)	128	2,661	56,333	\$400,001 or More	11	53	4,036
Average Price	\$230,789	\$150,373	\$194,596	1996 Characteristics			
Median Price	\$178,500	\$134,000	\$138,000	Owner Occupied Dwellings	1,839	38,474	807,559
				Housing Stock Age - Pre-1950	39.7%	28.5%	33.9%
				Subsidized Housing Units	53	5,076	148,930

Labor Force

				Commuters (1990)			
1997	Town	County	State	Commuters into Town from		Town Residents Commuting to	
Labor Force	3,284	81,578	1,723,300	1. Essex	842	Essex	842
Employed	3,179	77,578	1,635,400	2. Old Saybrook	326	Old Saybrook	383
Unemployed	105	4,000	87,900	3. Chester	253	Westbrook	133
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	4.9%	5.1%	4. Deep River	221	Hartford	131
Total Employment	3,510	64,510	1,581,700	5. Clinton	192	Clinton	111
Manufacturing	940	13,100	265,850	6. Westbrook	190	Deep River	92
'92-'97 Growth Rate	12.5%	4.7%	4.3%	7. Haddam	115	Middletown	90
Daytime Population	4,842	69,418	1,740,247	8. Old Lyme	113	Waterford	76
				9. East Lyme	104	Chester	65
				10. Middletown	103	New London	63

Quality of Life

Town	State	Library (1996-1997)	Town	Residential Utilities	
Banks (1997)	6	1,378	Total Volumes	25,026	Electric Provider
Lodging (1997)	4	756	Circulation Per Capita	8.3	Connecticut Light & Power
Day Care Facilities (1998)	5	1,651			1-800-286-2000
Infant Mortality Rate			Distance to Major Cities	Miles	Gas Provider
Per 1,000 Res. (1995)	0.358	0.099	Hartford	32	na
Crime Rate (1996)			Boston	100	na
Per 1,000 Residents	12.8	40	New York City	92	Water Provider
% Open Land (1990)	67.8%	68.8%	Providence	62	Connecticut Water Company
					1-800-286-5700
Hospitals (1997)	0	1			Cable Provider
Total Beds	0	275			Comcast Cablevision of Clinton, Inc.
					860-388-3354